

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Community Services



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

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### Commission for Women Hosts 2014 Women of Tomorrow

(Bel Air, MD) - - The Harford County Department of Community Services Commission for Women recently hosted the Harford County Women of Tomorrow Recognition Ceremony at Harford County Public Library Abingdon Branch.

The theme for the evening was "Women of the Past, Present and Tomorrow." Honored guest speaker, Mrs. Tydings Russell, spoke about her mother, Mrs. Eleanor Tydings Ditzen, who was recognized as the Woman of the Past. Mrs. Russell told tales, read stories and displayed pictures of her mother.

The Honorable Angela Eaves served as the Keynote Speaker and represented the Woman of Today. Judge Eaves spoke about the importance of "paying it forward," moving beyond expectations and trying to make a difference in the lives of others. The Commission recognized eight local young women as Women of Tomorrow for their commitment to community service and academic excellence.

The Commission requested a call for nominations in March, and after receiving nominations, selected eight nominees for recognition at the ceremony. This year's honorees were: Nina Cicero, (Senior - North Harford High School), Sarah Hawkins, (Senior - Bel Air High School), Kirsten Linkous, (Senior - Aberdeen High School), Shelby Richter, (Senior - Edgewood High School), Reagan Harper, (Junior - Aberdeen High School), Nia Hammett (8th grade, Edgewood Middle School), Emma Marchiano, (Bel Air Middle School), Florish Okigweh, (8<sup>th</sup> grade - Magnolia Middle School).

Following a short welcoming reception, Beth S. Hendrix, Director of Community Services welcomed the group and introduced special guests and elected officials. Ronnie Davis, Chairwoman of the Commission offered congratulations. Melynda Velez, Commission Member and Women of Tomorrow Committee Chair, read short biographies of each recipient and presented them with a certificate from the Commission, citation from the County Executive, and County Council.

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Sarah Hawkins was presented as the Harford County Woman of Tomorrow for grades 11-12, and Florish Okigweh was presented as the Harford County Woman of Tomorrow for grades 7 – 8. Both were given a \$100 gift card from the Commission for Women and its generous sponsors; Laurel Bush Family Dentistry, Klein's Shop Rite Bel Air, Advanced Eye Care, and APGFCU. Flavor Cupcakery also donated the delicious cupcakes. The event was attended by the nominees, their family and special guests, Athena Award winners, Nominators, Elected Officials and Commission members.

The Harford County Commission for Women was created in 1977 to promote the economic, social and political equality of women. If you would like to learn more about the Harford County Commission for Women and entity within the Department of Community Services, visit [www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/women](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/services/women) or call 410-638-4739.

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*“Preserving Harford’s past. Promoting Harford’s future.”*